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and privileges cannot be pronounced to be in any sense socialistic. Finally, the efforts to repair the ravages caused by the monetary difficulties, the governmental interference with prices and the adoption of laws against monopoly were not any more socialistic than were similar acts of the American Revolutionary Congress. Socialism, in other words, was neither the cause nor the result of the French Revolution. Apart from the conspiracy of Babœuf, we do not find during this period anything which can correctly be classed as socialism. Only those who confuse every movement for social reform with socialism can come to any other conclusion.

M. Lichtenberger, it is evident, has not said the last word on the question. But he is to be congratulated in having written a book which, for the first time, takes a comprehensive view of the entire social activity of the French Revolution, and which presents a conclusion that is at once suggestive and attractive.

E. R. A. SELIGMAN.

Les Origines du socialisme d'état en Allemagne. Par Charles Andler. Paris, Felix Alcan, 1897. — 495 pp.

German socialism, according to M. Andler, is a body of doctrine which aims at reform as a historical necessity and changes tradition only when it is in sharp conflict with justice. Its problem is to abolish misery. In this historical study the author accordingly attempts to determine the historical legitimacy of German state socialism and the adequacy of its proposals, in the light of the ideas of the great German writers of the past. His aim is to study those systems which, seeking to show the inadequacy of the present economic organization to prevent or abolish poverty, offer a substitute for the attainment of this end. Hence he calls socialistic all systems in which social needs are considered as paramount and which oppose to the present system of distribution ideal systems. This explains his inclusion of such writers as List and von Thünen, for both of these writers offered suggestions for reforming the present social organization.

The works especially brought under review are those of Hegel, von Thünen, List, Rodbertus and Lassalle. In his exposition and criticism of their views, M. Andler shows much independence of thought and great familiarity with the principal writers on economics in Germany, France and England. Of all the writers discussed, Rodbertus and von Thünen stand out most prominently for the interest and importance of their doctrines. As might be expected

from M. Andler's sympathies, however, Rodbertus has more space devoted to him. Accepting the latter's view, that the increase in the income of society is due to the organization of labor forces, and seeing small connection between modern civilization and private property in land and capital, the author finds much injustice in economic institutions that seem to reward individuals out of social income which is not due to individual activity. Hence his opposition to the present system of the distribution of land rent and his sympathy with the writings of the socialists.

As regards von Thünen, this study serves to bring out more clearly for the general reading public the fact that his work in the theory of distribution is a remarkable anticipation of more modern theories,—as to final utility, interest, etc.,—and for that reason deserves more attention than has hitherto been accorded to it. M. Andler errs, however, in not distinguishing clearly between what von Thünen regarded as the true principle of wages under the régime of competition and the ideal principle as set forth in the exposition of the isolated state. Von Thünen did not regard final productivity as an ideal determinant of wages: on the contrary, he held that it would not, of itself, rescue the laboring population from degradation. Hence he contended that a better principle must be sought for, and this he found in his well-known mathematical formula.

Notwithstanding the socialistic leanings of M. Andler and his French tendency to judge by the absolute standards of justice and liberty, this work will be accepted as an important contribution to our critical literature.

James W. Crook.

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La Proprietà sociale. Per Alessandro Garelli, Dottore aggregato, Professore di scienza della finanze. Milano, Ulrico Hoepli, 1898. — Two volumes: vii, 933 pp.

This book undertakes to solve a difficult problem — one so formidable, indeed, that it might well daunt the boldest investigator. The problem is to mark the limits of social rights over property, not merely in the sense of defining those limits which are now recognized by law and custom, but also of ascertaining what limits the enlightened "social conscience" of to-day will approve.

The author refuses to ally himself with any of the so-called schools of economic writers, and yet proposes to cull from each of them what appeals to him as true, and to weave new threads with the old to